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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**BOONE COUNTY MAN SENTENCED
FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that TIMOTHY J. RAGSDALE, 28, Lebanon, Indiana, was sentenced to 70 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Larry J. McKinney following his previously entered guilty plea to felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Lebanon Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James M. Warden, who prosecuted the case for the government, on August 13, 2003, Lebanon police officers responded to a complaint regarding subject TIMOTHY J. RAGSDALE. Based upon an allegation of

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harassment, officers approached RAGSDALE who was standing next to his Ford pickup truck. The officers spoke to RAGSDALE and further directed a trained drug dog to walk around RAGSDALE's truck. The dog alerted for the presence of controlled substances.

Based upon the dog's response, officers advised RAGSDALE that they were going to search his truck. RAGSDALE advised that he had a small pet in the truck and wanted to remove it. As officers observed RAGSDALE, he reached into the rear of the cab and moved a duffle bag. As the bag was moved an officer noticed a shotgun on the floorboard of the truck. RAGSDALE then reached for the shotgun. The officers immediately ordered RAGSDALE away and retrieved a Winchester 1200 12 gauge shotgun. The shotgun had been modified with a pistol grip and was loaded. No pet was found in the truck.

RAGSDALE previously had a Class D Felony conviction for dealing in marijuana and a Class B Felony for aiding aggravated battery.

Judge McKinney also imposed 3 years supervised release following RAGSDALE's imprisonment.

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